



File No.: 11367U101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADE MARKS OFFICE  
RESPONSE file 1367U101

In Re: Patent Application

Serial No: 10/597680

Filing Date: April 27 2007

Title: ELECTRONIC SAFETY DEVICE FOR SPORTS HELMETS.

Inventor: Fred A. Vaccari et al

Examiner: Brian Szmal Ph 1 571 272 4733

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Art Unit: 3736 Fax 1 571 273 8300

Office Action dated: October 13 2009 Deadline: January 13 2010

The Commissioner of Patents  
PO Box 1450,  
ALEXANDRIA,  
VA 22313-1450 U.S.A.

Dear Sir/Madam:

In response to the above-noted Office Action.

A substitute appointment, naming George A Rolston , has been filed, together with the corporate information requested by the Office.

Kindly confirm safe receipt. Kindly amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Delete para 0029;

And insert

[0029] In some embodiments, the position sensor 15 is operable to sense a tilt angle relative to a vertical axis extending from a straight spine of a wearer of a helmet including an electronic safety device 10. That is, the position sensor 15 is operable to sense how far forward and/or backward the head is relative to the body of the wearer. Referring to FIG. 2, and with continued reference to FIG. 1, in some specific embodiments the position sensor 15 is a photo-interrupter 20 that is operable to sense tilt past a threshold angle (e.g. 70°) relative to a vertical axis (e.g. extending from a substantially straight spine, when the participant is standing upright). When the head tilts forward past the threshold angle the photo-interrupter 20 outputs a voltage level change that is received by the processor 11 that in turn determines whether or not the head has been tilted past the threshold angle for a predetermined duration, as will be described in more detail below with added reference to FIG. 5. ~~Suitable alternate sensing devices may include a piezo element and/or Hall Effect switch in combination with a moving object such as a steel ball or gravity sensitive switch.~~ In view of this description and the examples presented herein, those skilled in the art are expected to be able to substitute in other suitable sensing devices to achieve the desired result.

**IN THE CLAIMS;**

**Amend claims 1 to 20 as shown in attached claims listing.**

**REMARKS:**